



# ***SOUTH JACKSON BEACON***

Vol XVI

August 20, 2023

No. 34

## ***Mountaintop Experiences*** ***Dan Jenkins***

Spiritual lives are not always characterized by “ mountaintop experiences. ” It was wonderful for Moses to be in the presence of God on Mount Sinai, but eventually he had to leave the mountain and return to the reality of dealing with the Jewish rebellion in worshipping the golden calf.

In the same way, Peter, James and John were at the Mount of Transfiguration and saw Moses, Elijah and the transformation of Jesus, but they eventually had to leave that mountain and confront their failure to cast out the demon in the child.

Elijah experienced this same problem in the contest he had with 450 prophets of Baal on Mount Carmel. The fire from heaven totally consumed the prophet’s sacrifice and shortly afterwards there was the slaughter of all the false prophets. Yet, when Elijah descended from that mount, he was so overwhelmed with the sinfulness of Israel, he asked God to take him, for he thought he was the only person in Israel who faithfully served Jehovah.

“Mountaintop experiences” are so wonderful. There are those times when we see great spiritual victories and figuratively are on top of the world. You may remember in great detail that day when you obeyed the Gospel and how exhilarated you were. It may have been that day when some loved one of yours became a Christian. It may have been one of the unexpected times when

you were worshiping, and you were so enthralled that you forgot about all those distractions from daily life. Thank God for “mountaintop experiences.”

However, the reality is that life always has deep “valleys” when we must leave the mountaintop. Life probably has more valleys than it has mountaintops. Situations develop and doubts and fears seem to threaten our faith. Do not despair. Look at those heroes who were in that same situation. Abraham (Gen. 15:1; 20:10-11), Isaac (Gen. 26:24), Moses (Num. 21:34), Joshua (Josh. 1:9; 8:1), David (1 Sam. 23:17), Elijah (2 Kgs. 1:15), Jehoshaphat (2 Chron. 20:15) and Daniel (Dan. 10:12) are just a few of those individuals who were fearful when in the valleys of life.

There is a great principle of life to be learned when we look deeply into the lives of our Biblical heroes. Godly people have always had clouds of adversity around them. Their response was often like ours, but this does not mean they were not approved by God. All mankind has valleys, but Christians have something others do not have. When we are walking in valley of death may our hearts proclaim, “I will fear not evil for You are with me. Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.” Thank God for those “mountaintop experiences,” but let us thank God for the blessings of His help in the valleys!

# ***Congregational News & Notes***

## **Prayer Requested**

### **Members**

Harold Davis, Mary Bolen  
Ron and Nadine McDonald,  
Sandra Jordan, Freddie Stewart,  
Cindy Kidder, Garmelia Ellis,  
Roberta Donaldson, Lisa Dukes,  
Doug Crouse, Norma Cogdell  
Margie Montgomery, Sue Harris,  
Betty Mosely, Teriyaki Anderson  
James Morris, Freeman Kidder,  
Andy Vaughn, Pearl Johnson,  
Ken & Paula Wadley, Judy Ellis  
Charles & Ruby Malone,  
Phillip Mulins, Jerry Crabb,  
Karen Chance, Mary Lewis,  
Sheila Greer, Helen Morris  
Luther Merritt, David Briley

### **Friends & Family**

Horace Yearwood, Shirley Bolin,  
Beverly Martindale,  
Allen Thompson, Glenn Lovell,  
Gladys Gowan, Diane Hubbard,  
Brandi Rogers, Marilyn Ferrell,  
Jeanette Manley, Corey Allen  
Kenton Lancaster,  
Justin Puckett

### **Today's Sermons**

AM - A Mountaintop Experience  
with Jesus  
Mark 9:2-10

PM - Jesus - The Light of  
the World  
John 8:12

## **Happenings**

### **South Jackson**

#### **Today**

Men's Business Meeting  
Following AM Services

#### **Cards to Send**

Karen Chance  
36 Parkburg Road  
Jackson, TN 38301

Judy Ellis  
425 Gasden Road  
Humboldt, TN 38343

### **Weekly Record**

6 AM	6
Bible Class	49/9
AM Worship	73/30
PM Worship	56/28
Wed Bible Study	53/17
Contribution	4466

### **Pantry Item**

Jelly

### **Directory Pictures**

Pictures will be taken on  
September 3rd and 10th.  
Plans are to have a new  
directory out in January.

# Those Privileged to Serve

## Aug 20 - AM WORSHIP

6 AM - R. Pack, R. Clouse

Lead Singing: Mike Wages

Read Scripture:

Costel Ghimpu

Opening Prayer:

Greg Long

Sermon: Ray Pack

Closing Prayer: Joe Venable

Communion: Marion Thomas

Contribution:

Jonathan Orr

## Aug 27 - AM WORSHIP

6 AM - J. Butcher, P. Hatcher

Lead Singing: John Smith

Read Scripture:

Jonathan Orr

Opening Prayer:

Mike Wages

Sermon: Ray Pack

Closing Prayer: Carleton Kidder

Communion: Joe Venable

Contribution:

Charlie Richardson

## PM WORSHIP

Lead Singing: Paul Hatcher

Opening Prayer:

Mike Wages

Sermon: Ray Pack

Closing Prayer: Ken Ross

Communion: Marion Thomas

## PM WORSHIP

Lead Singing: Ray Pack

Opening Prayer:

Paul Hatcher

Sermon: Singing Night

Closing Prayer: Marion Thomas

Communion: Joe Venable

## Aug 23 - WED BIBLE STUDY

Lead Singing: Paul Hatcher

Opening Prayer:

Ray Pack

Devo - Marion Thomas

## Aug 30 - WED BIBLE STUDY

Lead Singing: Ray Pack

Opening Prayer:

Marion Thomas

Devo - Mike Wages

South Jackson Church of Christ

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Medon, TN

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Minister: Ray Pack

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(731) 437-9501

## Service Times

Early Worship	6:00 AM
Gospel of Christ - Fox 16	9:30 AM
Sunday Bible Class	9:30 AM
Sunday AM Worship	10:30 AM
Sunday PM Worship	5:00 PM
Midweek Bible Study	6:30 PM